

determined by that correction curve determination.

Fig. 16 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the copy server processes the retouching of image data.

Fig. 17 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the copy server processes the conversion of image data.

Figs. 18A-18B

*8m/s
8/25/05* Fig. 18 illustrates the configurations of picture elements before and after the execution of image data retouching applied to the image data.

Figs. 19A-19B

*8m/s
8/25/05* Fig. 19 illustrates how a contrasty image is obtained by the image data retouching.

Fig. 20 is a schematic diagram of an image data background determining method in another preferred embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 21 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the copy server processes color copying.

Fig. 22 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the copy server processes image data designation.

Fig. 23 illustrates a frequency distribution of image data charted according to the image data designation.

Fig. 24 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the copy server processes tone setting.

Figs. 25A-25B

*8m/s
8/25/05* Fig. 25 illustrates a section for color image data and a section for monochrome image data set by the tone setting.

Fig. 26 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the

8mB
copy server processes background area determination.

Fig. 27 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the copy server processes image data retouching.

Fig. 28 is a flowchart schematically illustrating how the copy server processes correction curve determination.

8/25/05
Figs. 29A-29B
Fig. 29 illustrates an example of correction curve determined by the correction curve determination.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Preferred embodiments of the present invention will now be described below with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Fig. 1 is a claim-matched diagram illustrating an image data background determining method in one preferred embodiment of the invention.

In Fig. 1, this image data background determining method generally determines the presence of an area constituting a background in an image according to frequency distribution in the image data constituting the image.

More specifically, at an image data acquisition step A1, image data expressing the image to be subjected to background determination in multiples tones in picture elements arranged in a dot matrix are acquired. Next, at a frequency distribution charting step A2, the picture elements of the image data acquired at the image data acquisition step A1 are totaled as classified